

PENDING CLAIMS AS AMENDED

Please amend claims 4, 7 and 8 as indicated below. A marked up version of the amended claims is attached as Appendix B.

a2 4. (Amended) The method of claim 3 wherein the recovering the at least one group of information bits when an inner quality metric corresponding to the at least one group of information bits indicates that the at least one group of information bits in the frame has been received correctly comprises:

determining a number of the inner quality metrics;

determining, for each of the number of the inner quality metrics, whether a group of information bits corresponding to the inner quality metric has been received correctly; and

recovering the at least one group of information bits, which were determined to be received correctly.

7. (Amended) An apparatus for forming a frame of data, comprising:

a processor; and

a storage medium coupled to the processor and containing a set of instructions executable by the processor to:

recover the at least one group of information bits when an outer quality metric indicates that the frame has been received correctly; and

a3 recover the at least one group of information bits when an inner quality metric corresponding to the at least one group of information bits indicates that the at least one group of information bits in the frame has been received correctly when the frame has not been received correctly.

8. (Amended) The apparatus of claim 7 wherein the processor recovers the at least one group of information bits when an inner quality metric corresponding to the at least

one group of information bits indicates that the at least one group of information bits has been received correctly by executing a set of instructions to:

determine a number of the inner quality metrics;

determine, for each of the number of the inner quality metrics, whether a group of information bits corresponding to the inner quality metric has been received correctly; and

recover the at least one group of information bits, which were determined to be received correctly.
